

## Weekly Weather Crop Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending July 25, 2004

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending July 25, 2004**. With almost a full week of suitable weather for fieldwork, producers throughout the State worked intensely on catching up with field operations. Due to the drier conditions, hay producers made good progress with harvesting and row crop producers completed some much-needed spraying operations. Harvesting of corn silage continued throughout Mississippi, with very good yields being reported. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 15 percent short, 78 percent adequate and 6 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2003	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Dough	90	84	91	91	1	4	19	50	26
	Dent	68	50	59	68					
	Mature	6	--	--	--					
	Silage Harvested	42	25	44	31					
Cotton	Squaring	97	94	95	99	1	7	23	48	21
	Setting Bolls	81	66	75	90					
Rice	Heading	45	30	61	45	0	1	12	65	22
Sorghum	Heading	96	92	91	93	0	1	18	64	17
	Turning Color	45	30	43	41					
Soybeans	Blooming	96	92	89	92	0	6	18	52	24
	Setting Pods	90	82	76	76					
	Turning Color	10	--	--	--					
Wheat	Harvested	100	99	100	100	--	--	--	--	--
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	51	43	67	66	10	10	34	38	8
Sweetpotatoes	Planted	100	99	100	100	1	8	35	47	9
Watermelons	Harvested	89	75	91	76	0	6	13	77	4
Cattle						0	5	19	56	20
Pasture						1	8	25	53	13

### County Agent Comments

"The county needs some rain. Those that did not get a rain last weekend have been irrigating this week. Cotton looks bad in places where water stood and it appears to have lost a lot of nitrogen. Soybeans and rice look great—the best crop the county has had. Corn is through and looks like an average crop. Milo would benefit from a good rain."

— Mack Young, Quitman

"Group II Soybeans are ready for harvest. Group III and very early planted group IV soybeans are turning yellow as they mature. Corn harvest has started in fields that prematurely dried down due to diseases, mainly Northern Corn Leaf Blight."

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Some soybeans were planted as late as last week due to excessive rain following flooding on low elevation fields. Corn producers are hopeful of good yields, with harvest about 2 weeks away. Rain has made hay harvest difficult, but there is plenty of grass to harvest. The past two weeks provided plenty of sunshine plus sporadic rains.”

— Terry Rector, Warren

“Corn silage harvest is roughly 80 percent complete with wonderful yields being recorded. Summer grass hay harvest continues in full swing with many producers currently having a greater hay supply than has been possible in the past several drought-stricken years. Late planted soybeans are looking very good. Many producers are already plowing pastures for them to lay fallow for several weeks prior to seeding ryegrass.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“Hay harvest is in full swing, and both fall gardens and pumpkin crops are in.”

— Mark Gillie, Greene

“The weather is cooler, but we did not get much rain. Growers are watering everything they can. Insect pressure is light.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“Scattered showers continue to limit field activities. Some producers were able to cut and bale hay last week.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Cotton is doing well, but it is tall. We are just now starting to get it under control. Group IV beans are touching in many fields and some fields are showing signs of maturity.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Cotton and soybeans, stressed from waterlogged soils, showed signs of recovery and growth with drier conditions and sunlight. Herbicide applications have been delayed and some yield reduction has occurred due to weed competition.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Insect pressure is light, with some plantbugs still being sprayed in cotton. Soybean insects are building with some control measures going out. Crops still look promising.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Many growers got a break in the wet weather just in time to finish applying nitrogen fertilizers and layby weed control. However, many low-lying fields are still in very bad condition, with poor prospects. After these few days without heavy rains, some localized areas are needing rain.”

— Ernie Flint, Attala

“While many low-lying areas are still very wet, there are others that need rain.”

— Kay Emmons, Montgomery

“This week's dry weather allowed many row crop farmers and cattlemen the opportunity to clean up some fields and cut some hay. Many hay producers actually put up hay this past week without any rain on it. Hay producers are still behind on their cutting schedule because of the continuous rainfall cycle that we were in for the past few months. Fields aren't as weed-free this year because all the rain prevented spring applications of herbicides.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“Corn quality and yield look excellent so far and most fields are in the dent stage now. Cotton is ragged and yellow from damaged root systems. Sweetpotato planting is finally complete and fields are showing micro-nutrient deficiencies at rates I've never seen before.”

— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“We harvested some corn last week and yields are looking very good. Early planted soybeans are looking good, but we could use one good rain. Red crown rot symptoms are slowing down with the heat and dry weather.”

— Dennis B. Reginelli, Noxubee

“Dry weather allowed hay harvest to get into full swing last week. Balers were seen operating in all areas of the county. Dry conditions also allowed row crop producers to catch up on spraying operations. Cotton is blooming and setting pods. Earlier overflow conditions have made the cotton crop quite variable. Soybeans and corn seem to have received less wet weather stress, although low areas were affected. Beef and dairy cattle are benefitting from an excellent grass supply.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Many producers harvested their first cutting of hay this week. Early planted group IV soybeans are turning color and beginning to dry down for an expected early-to-mid August harvest.”

— Mark Mowdy, Franklin

“Dry weather for the past 10 days has allowed growers to catch up on herbicide applications in cotton. The crop in general is looking good considering all the rains in May and June. Bollworms are beginning to show up in some fields in low numbers. Peanuts are looking really good. Most growers have been able to get back on their fungicide schedule. Some disease symptoms have been found, but fungicides should prevent these from becoming a major problem.”

— Mike Howell, Covington

“We had a good week for harvesting hay. Right now we have plenty of grass, with plenty of weeds, in most pastures. Corn silage turned out real good.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“A sunny and dry week allowed producers to harvest forages that were long overdue. Cattle continue to look good with the forage that is available. Several producers are having to clip pastures because cattle cannot keep up with the growth.”

— Lance Bruce, Lauderdale

“Corn silage harvest is in full swing. Most yields and quality look very good. Some late corn did not do well. Cotton and soybeans continue to look good. Hay harvest has resumed since showers have mostly subsided. Some rain fell in the southern half of the county last week; other areas are beginning to get too dry.”

— Victor Lee, Newton

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Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

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Weather Summary from July 19, 2004 to July 25, 2004 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Charleston	92	65	78	82	-4	0.10	-0.84	1	6.94				
Cleveland	95	67	80	83	-3	0.02	-0.59	1	3.09				
Tunica	95	71	82	82	0	0.00	-0.77	0	3.87				0.26
Extreme/Average	95	65	80	82	-2	0.04	-0.82	1	4.63				0.26
2. North-Central													
Hickory Flat	92	61	75	80	-5	0.00	-1.01	0	9.80				
Calhoun City	90	62	77	81	-4	0.01	-0.90	1	3.08				
Independence	92	62	77	81	-4	0.00	-0.82	0	4.42				
Oxford	95	63	79	81	-2	0.00	-0.89	0	5.26				
Extreme/Average	95	61	77	81	-4	0.00	-0.92	0	5.64				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	92	66	79	80	-1	0.19	-0.72	1	6.65				
Iuka	91	58	74	78	-4	0.73	-0.32	1	6.63				
Ripley	91	61	76	80	-4	0.00	-1.02	0	7.49				
Tupelo	93	66	80			0.00		0	7.08				
Verona				81		0.00	-0.77	0	3.38				0.25
Extreme/Average	93	58	77	81	-4	0.23	-0.71	1	6.96				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	92	67	81	83	-2	0.20	-0.84	3	4.62				
Rolling Fork	96	65	81	82	-1	0.62	-0.25	1	3.72		78	93	
Stoneville	97	66	81	83	-2	0.00	-0.83	0	8.27	101	77	88	0.24
Yazoo City	95	65	80	82	-2	0.00	-0.94	0	2.64				
Extreme/Average	97	65	81	83	-2	0.21	-0.74	1	4.81	101	77	90	0.24
5. Central													
Canton				82		0.10	-0.74	1	8.31				
Carthage	93	64	79	81	-2	0.67	-0.38	1	5.99				
Lexington	92	63	78	80	-2	0.00	-0.82	0	5.48				
Eupora				80		0.00	-0.89	0	5.16				
Extreme/Average	93	63	78	81	-3	0.19	-0.86	1	6.24				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	94	65	79	81	-2	0.00	-0.84	0	3.17				0.47
Houston	91	60	77	80	-3	0.01	-0.82	1	3.43				
Louisville				79		0.00	-1.23	0	6.43				
State University	96	65	80	81	-1	0.00	-0.98	0	6.95	86	79	82	0.23
Extreme/Average	96	60	79	81	-2	0.00	-1.01	0	5.00	86	79	82	0.35
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs				82		0.42	-0.49	1	9.38	101	79	88	
Natchez	93	66	80	82	-2	0.00	-0.91	0	3.11				
Oakley	93	66	80	81	-1	0.50	-0.34	1	5.45	100	81	89	
Vicksburg	93	66	80			0.00		0	4.62				
Extreme/Average	93	66	80	81	-1	0.23	-0.77	1	5.64	101	79	88	
6. South-Central													
Collins	95	68	80	81	-1	0.02	-1.10	1	5.91				
Columbia	96	70	81	82	-1	0.00	-1.26	0	4.96				
Tylertown	93	66	80	81	-1	0.02	-1.33	1	5.45				
Extreme/Average	96	66	80	81	-1	0.01	-1.18	1	5.44				
7. Southeast													
Beaumont	98	68	82			0.00		0	4.20				
Hattiesburg	93	67	80	82	-2	0.00	-1.32	0	8.95				
Laurel	94	67	81	81	0	0.00	-1.26	0	7.18				
Newton				81		0.00	-1.12	0	5.07				0.26
Extreme/Average	98	67	81	81	0	0.00	-1.25	0	6.35				0.26
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis				82		0.08	-1.66	1	3.62				
Gulfport	94	72	83	83	0	0.00	-1.61	0	2.35				
Poplarville	95	69	81	82	-1	0.00	-1.54	0	5.61	100	78	89	0.25
Waveland	94	71	82	82	0	0.88	-0.62	2	3.39				
Extreme/Average	95	69	81	82	-1	0.44	-1.16	1	4.50	100	78	89	0.25
State	98	58	79	81	-2	0.13	-0.94	1	5.60	101	77	87	0.28

DFN = Departure from Normal.